DC JIMMY OLSEN

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE THE SMALLEST PLANET...ON EARTH!?!

ONLY 25¢ bigger better

SEE SUPERMAN'S PAL

THE NEW JIMMY OLSEN

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

NO. 143 NOV. 30550

THE GENOCIDE SPRAY!

plus

THE NEWSBOY LEGION

in

"THE ROOKIE TAKES THE RAP"

OF ALL OUR EARLY INVOLVEMENTS IN AERO-SPACE TECHNOLOGY, THE ONE MOST OVER-LOOKED WAS "E.T.A.S." (EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL ATMOSPHERIC SIMULATION!) IN CHARGE OF IT WAS ONE DABNEY DONOVAN!! A NEVER-SEEN, BRILLIANT, WILD, WILD SCIENTIST! FORGETTING HIM WAS A MISTAKE!! FOR WHAT DABNEY HATH WROUGHT MUST NOT BE RENT ASUNDER!! OR MILLIONS WILL DIE FROM
"GENOCIDE SPRAY!"
WHO WOULD BELIEVE IT!!? HERE, IN A GREAT CRYPT, BELOW BLOOD-MOOR CEMETERY-- THIS!!!
EVEN LOOKING AT IT IS A SENSATION WITH NO KNOWN FRAME OF REFERENCE, SUPERMAN!
WELL, NOW, DEAR READER! IN THIS NEW ERA OF REMOTE EXPERIMENTATION AND ENLARGED BUREAUCRACY, TURN THE PAGE AND SEE WHAT THE TAXPAYER'S MONEY CAN PAY FOR--IN THE DAY OF THE TRILLION DOLLAR NATIONAL PRODUCT!
X-194
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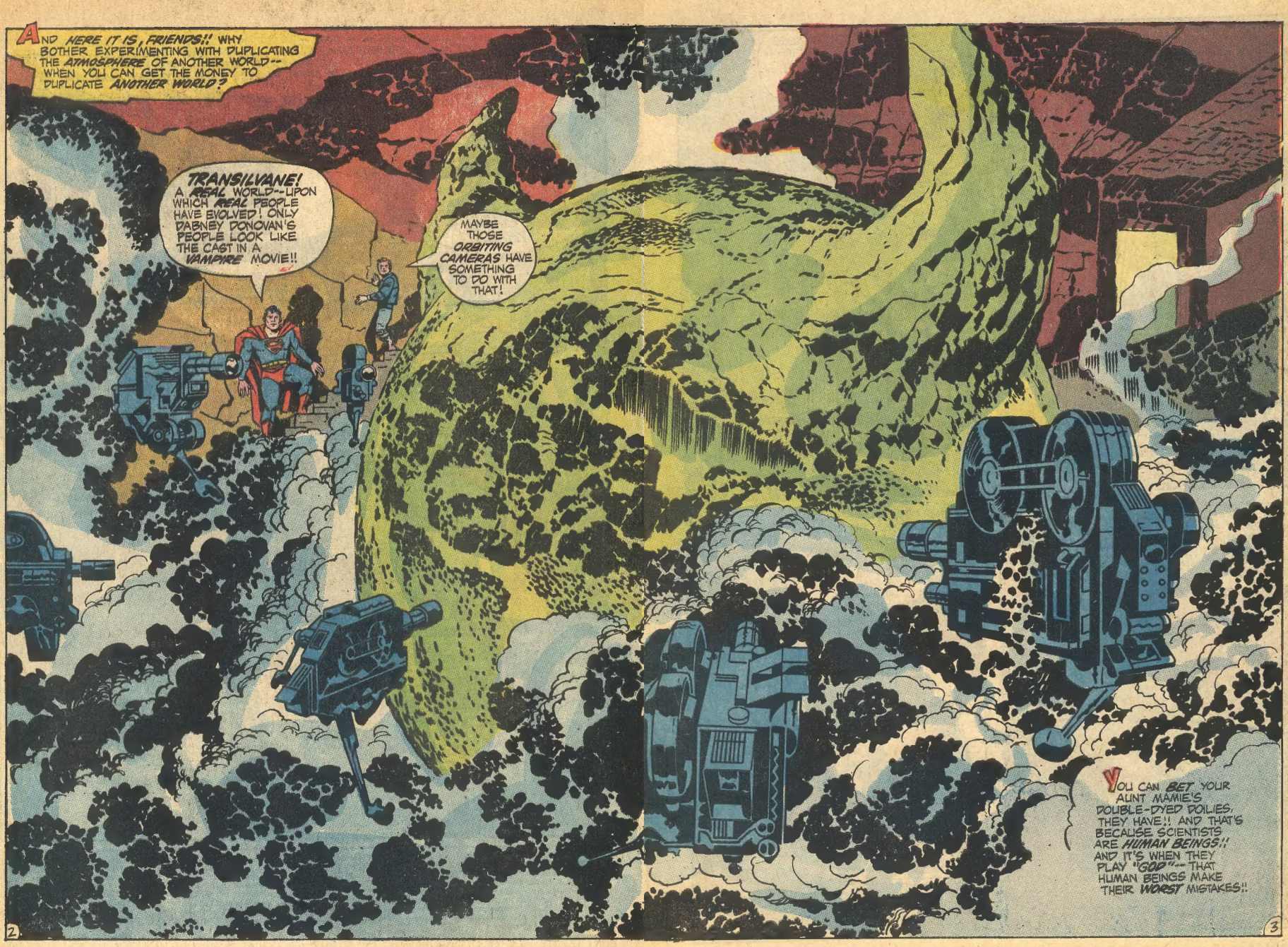

AND HERE IT IS, FRIENDS!! WHY BOTHER EXPERIMENTING WITH DUPLICATING THE ATMOSPHERE OF ANOTHER WORLD -- WHEN YOU CAN GET THE MONEY TO DUPLICATE ANOTHER WORLD?
TRANSILVANE! A REAL WORLD--UPON WHICH REAL PEOPLE HAVE EVOLVED! ONLY DABNEY DONOVAN'S PEOPLE LOOK LIKE THE CAST IN A VAMPIRE MOVIE!!
MAYBE THOSE ORBITING CAMERAS HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THAT!
YOU CAN BET YOUR AUNT MAMIE'S DOUBLE-DYED DOILIES, THEY HAVE!! AND THAT'S BECAUSE SCIENTISTS ARE HUMAN BEINGS!! AND IT'S WHEN THEY PLAY "GOD"-- THAT HUMAN BEINGS MAKE THEIR WORST MISTAKES!!
2
3

MY PERSONAL GUESS ABOUT THOSE ORBITING "MACHINES" IS THAT THEY'RE NOT CAMERAS! THEY'RE MOVIE PROJECTORS, JIMMY!
YOU MEAN THOSE THINGS PROJECT MOVIES ONTO THE SURFACE OF THAT PLANET? YOU MEAN THAT PLANET IS BEING USED AS A MOVIE SCREEN?
NOT ITS SURFACE! BUT IMAGES COULD BE PROJECTED ON ITS SKIES--OR CLOUDS! YES! MOVIE IMAGES--ACTING OUT THEIR PLOTTED DESTINIES ON THE SKIES OF A WORLD!
AND THOSE MOVIES HAVE AN AUDIENCE--THE WATCHERS NATIVE TO THAT WORLD!!
LIKE--COUNT DRAGORIN AND HIS WOLF-MAN CHUM!
YES, JIMMY! A WORLD OF LIVING BEINGS--WATCHING MOVIES IN THEIR SKIES--FOR GENERATIONS--AND GENERATIONS!
GOOD LORD! THROUGH THE USE OF HORROR MOVIES, DABNEY DONOVAN HAS CREATED A RACE OF--OF--
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE, JIMMY! WE CAN ONLY STRETCH SPECULATION SO FAR!!
NOW, HERE'S A FACT! THE HAND OF THIS STATUE IS MOVABLE!
4

SUDDENLY, A DOOR OPENS !!!
AND OUR HEROES MOVE FORWARD INTO THE STRANGE, DARK AND GOOSE-BUMPY CAVERNS OF A MAN'S MIND!--THE MIND OF UNSEEN DABNEY DONOVAN--WHO HAS LEFT AN EVEN STRANGER LEGACY!! WE GIVE YOU A PUZZLED, PERILED AND BEDEVILED PAIR!!
JIMMY OLSEN
AND HIS PAL SUPERMAN!!!
COFFINS! OF COURSE!-- PROPER TRANSILVANE TRADITION!!
I GET IT! BUT I DON'T LIKE-- LOOKING!
"IN DEFIANCE OF ALL THE FEARS WHICH HAVE MARKED MY HUMAN EXPERIENCE, I CAN'T RESIST THE GESTURE OF PLACING OUR CREDITS HERE!!"
EDITED, WRITTEN AND DRAWN BY JACK KIRBY
ASKING THE VALUED INDULGENCE OF—
VINCE COLLETTA WHO INKS IN FUNEREAL BLACK
5

SLOWLY, CAUTIOUSLY, JIMMY AND SUPERMAN PROCEED WITH THEIR NEXT MOVE!! A LIGHTED CANDLE HELPS, IN THE SOMBER SHADOWS!! THE FIRM, STEADY GRIP OF SUPERMAN'S FINGERS ON THE COFFIN LID! THEN--!!
COUNT DRAGORIN!!
AND RUNNING TRUE TO FORM! HE'S DOING THE "LIVING DEAD" BIT! YET--IT'S STILL HOURS AWAY FROM THE FIRST RAYS OF DAWN!!
TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT HIM, JIMMY! I THINK HE'S IN A MILD SHOCK!
WHAT'S MORE--NOTICE THE METAL GADGETS NEAR HIS HEAD--
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.
6

THERE, JIMMY, IS WHERE WE *PART* COMPANY WITH THE "*VAMPIRE MOVIE*" AND DIP INTO *ANOTHER* BAG!!
SUPPOSE THESE *AREN'T* COFFINS?! SUPPOSE THEY'RE LIKE--*DECOMPRESSION CHAMBERS*?!
YEAH! OUR VISITORS RISE FROM THAT PLANET--*NOT* LIKE ASTRONAUTS--BUT LIKE *FROGMEN!!* I'LL BET THAT WOLF-MAN, LUPEK, IS IN *THIS* COFFIN!

WRONG!

GROWRRR

STAY BACK, JIMMY! YOU'LL ONLY GET HURT IF YOU TRY TO HELP! I'LL HANDLE HIM!
CAREFUL, SUPERMAN! THESE WEIRDOS HAVE POWERS THAT ARE STRICTLY FROM *LEFT FIELD!!*
THANK GOODNESS THERE *AREN'T*--
ROWRRR

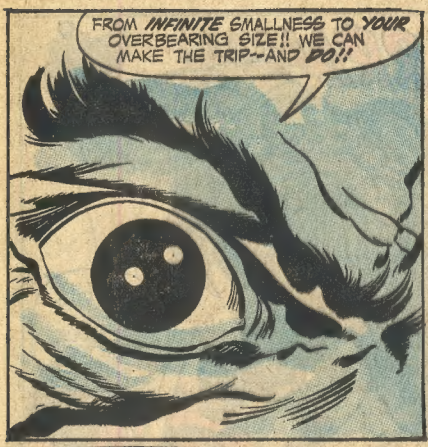
--MORE-- OF-- THEM--!

YOU'RE ONE OF THEM, YOU WHELP! A CURSED CUB OF DABNEY DONOVAN'S "OVER-WORLD!"
BLONK
SUPERMAN!! IT'S A TRIPLE FEATURE!!

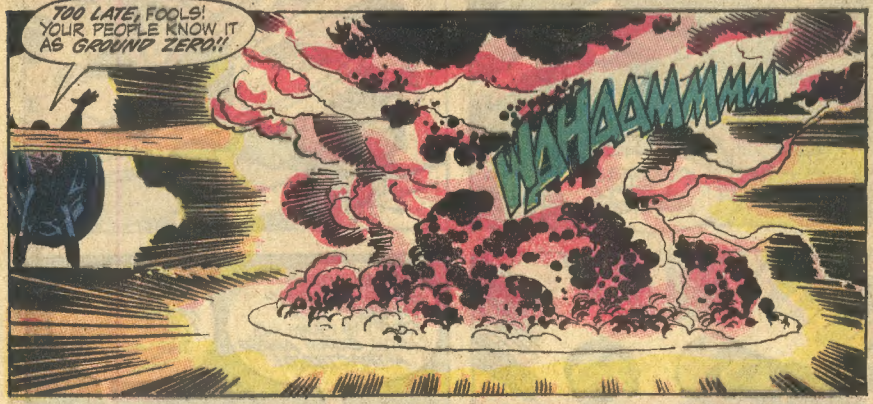
RRAAAAAA
THIS'LL HELP, JIM!! I HOPE I DON'T INJURE THEM TOO SEVERELY!

WHOMMP

LOOK! MOVING SHADOWS EVERY-WHERE!! THIS CRYPT IS CRAWLING WITH EXTRA ADDED ATTRACTIONS!
SURE! NEWLY ARRIVED BY TRAVELING COFFIN! THAT'S THE ANSWER, JIMMY!


FROM INFINITE SMALLNESS TO YOUR OVERBEARING SIZE!! WE CAN MAKE THE TRIP--AND DO!!

AND FROM TRANSILVANE WE BRING OUR POWERS WITH US!! SEE THE SIGN OF THE "MYSTICIAN" APPEAR BENEATH YOUR FEET!!
WHA-? IT MOVES WHEN WE DO!
IT'S TRACKING US--LIKE RADAR!! JUMP, JIMMY!!


TOO LATE, FOOLS! YOUR PEOPLE KNOW IT AS GROUND ZERO!!
WAHAAMMMM

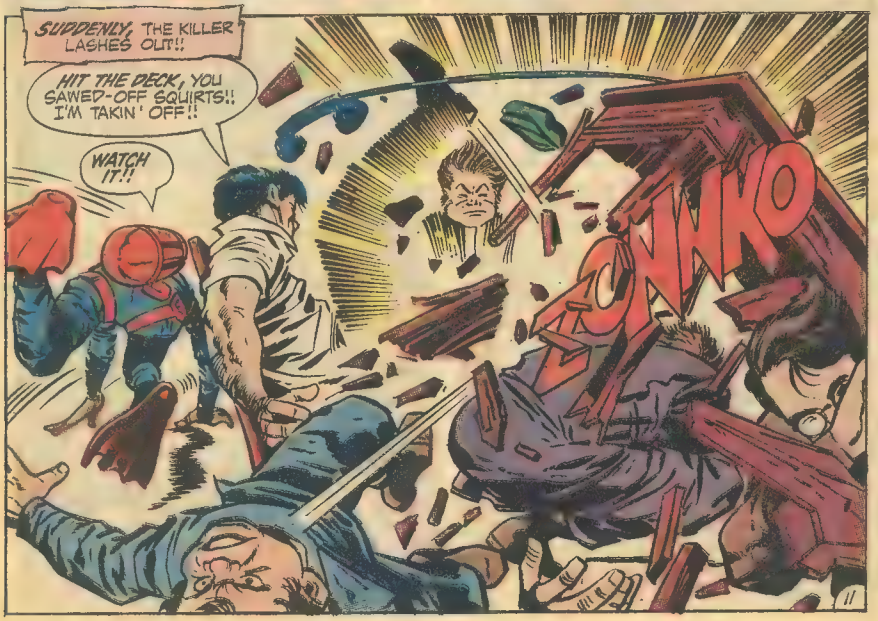
MERELY A MICRO-BOMB, MY FRIENDS!! ENOUGH TO CAUSE GREAT HAVOC ON TRANSILVANE!! BUT HERE--A MERE SLEEPING POTION FOR YOU!!

AS THE SMOKE CLEARS, SILENCE FOLLOWS!! A STRANGE, CHILLING, DEATH-LIKE-- SILENCE!!
9

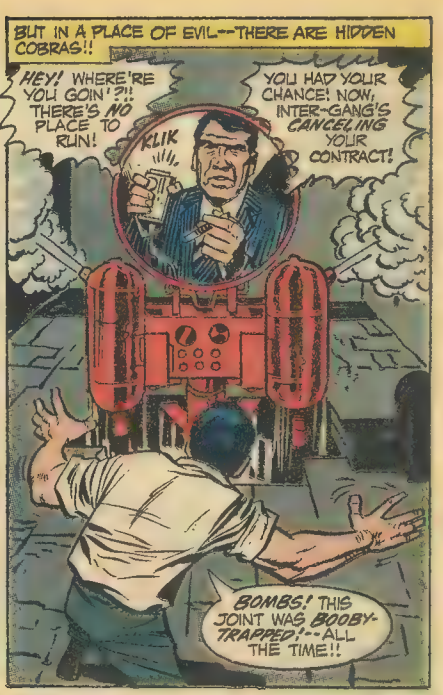
MEANWHILE, IN ANOTHER PLACE--THERE'S ANOTHER SILENCE!!--THE SILENCE OF LISTENING!! WHILE A CRUEL, RASPING VOICE LETS SLIP ITS SHOCKING SECRET!!
YOU HEARD ME! I SAID THAT YOU COULDN'T HAVE SEEN THE GUARDIAN! BECAUSE, DETECTIVE JIM HARPER WAS THE GUARDIAN--AND I SHOT HARPER!!
I'LL SAY IT AGAIN, SEE! I SHOT AND KILLED JIM HARPER!
WHAT'S MORE, I LIKE THIS HIDEOUT, SEE? IT'S LIKE A STINKIN' UNDERGROUND BUNKER!! BUT I LIKE IT!--'CUZ IT'S SAFE, SEE?!
YEAH! THAT'S RIGHT! I'M NOT LEAVIN' THIS SPOT UNTIL I FEEL THAT THE HEAT'S OFF! SO TELL THE REST OF INTER-GANG TO FORGET ABOUT ME SHOWIN' UP!
YOU'LL SHOW UP, MISTER RAT!!--EVEN IF WE HAVE TO DRAG YOU BODILY TO THE NEAREST POLICE PRECINCT!!
WHAT IN BLUE BLAZES--?! HOW'D YOU KIDS GET IN HERE??
DON'T GO FOR YOUR GUN! WE SAW IT, TOO!
YOU SURE GOT A THING FOR "FAST DRAWS", AIN'T'CHA!
PLAP
10

YOU DIDN'T HANG UP ON YOUR FRIENDS! THEY'RE LISTENING!
WE GOT 'CHER BOY!!-- YEZ CRUMS!
WHAT HAPPENED!? WHAT'S GOIN' ON THERE!?

TALK ABOUT "POETIC JUSTICE!" IF ANY ONE WAS MEANT TO CAPTURE YOU, IT HAD TO BE YOUR VICTIM'S BEST FRIENDS!-- THE NEWSBOY LEGION!!
AS FOR YER FRIENDS, "TRIGGER FINGER"--DEY JUST HUNG UP!!--WIDDOUT SAYIN' GOODBYE!
I'D LIKE TO PUT IN MY TWO CENTS HERE!!--BUT, FOR ONCE--I'M SPEECHLESS!


SUDDENLY, THE KILLER LASHES OUT!!
HIT THE DECK, YOU SAWED-OFF SQUIRTS!! I'M TAKIN' OFF!!
WATCH IT!!
KONK!
11

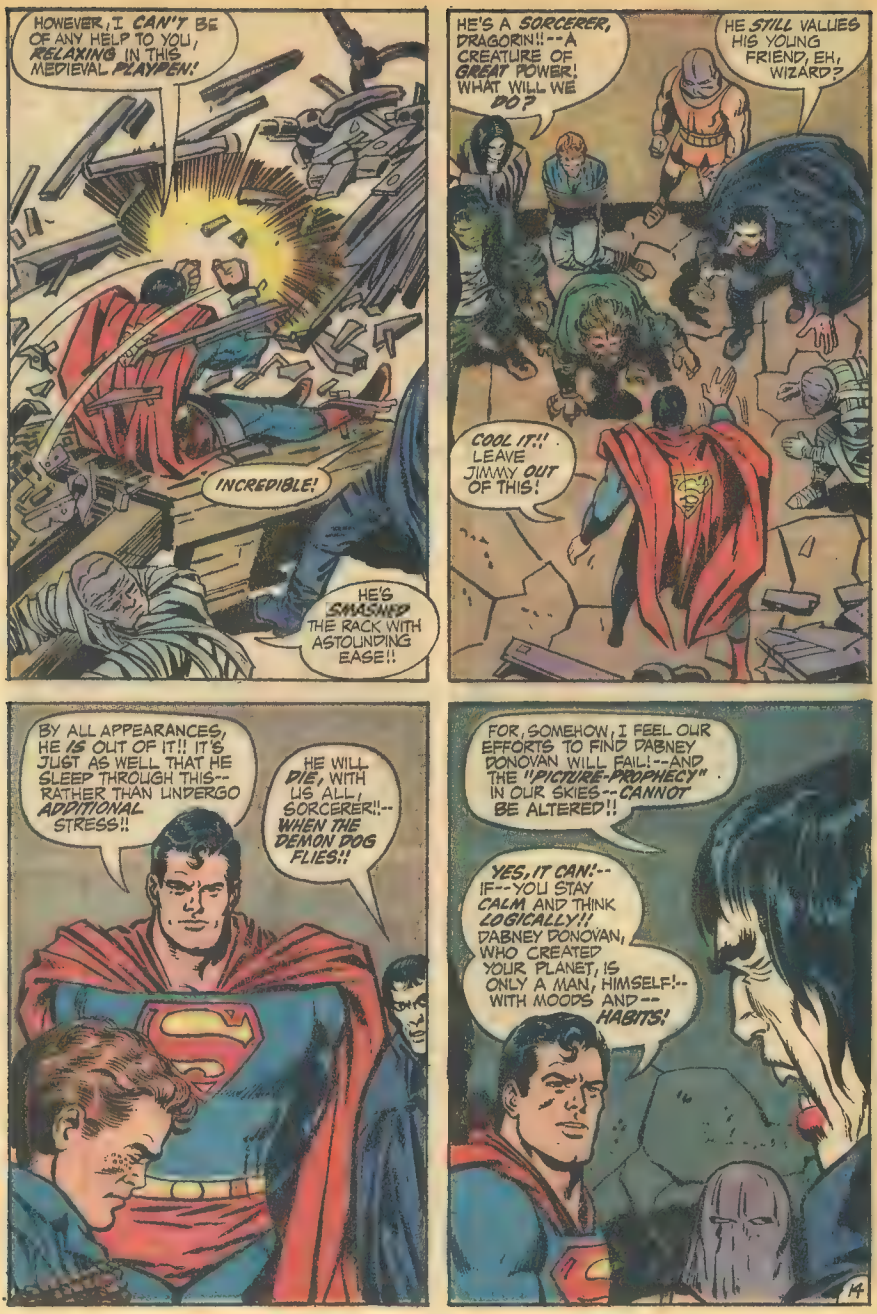
WELL! THERE GOES A GOOD HIDEOUT! IF THOSE LITTLE PUNKS COULD FIND IT--SO CAN THE LAW!!
YA SLEAZY, NO-GOOD CRUM! WE'LL CATCH YA--AN' HOG TIE YA, DIS TIME!!


BUT IN A PLACE OF EVIL--THERE ARE HIDDEN COBRAS!!
HEY! WHERE'RE YOU GOIN'?!! THERE'S NO PLACE TO RUN!
KLIK
YOU HAD YOUR CHANCE! NOW, INTER-GANG'S CANCELING YOUR CONTRACT!
BOMBS! THIS JOINT WAS BOOBY-TRAPPED!--ALL THE TIME!!

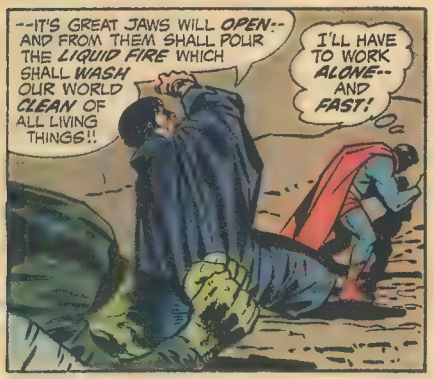
BLAMM

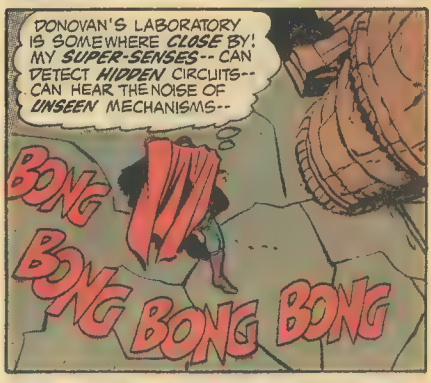
AT THAT MOMENT, IN THE CRYPT BELOW BLOODMOOR CEMETERY, SUPERMAN'S FEIGNED SLEEP COMES TO AN END!!
WELL, I'VE PLAYED ALONG WITH THE VISITING FIREMEN FROM TRANSILVANE LONG ENOUGH!!
THEY HAVEN'T HARMED JIMMY! SO PERHAPS WE CAN DEVOTE SOME TIME TO A DIALOGUE!

OUR HOSTAGE IS AWAKE! QUESTION HIM, DRAGORIN! THE HOUR OF THE DEMON DOG DRAWS NEAR!!
AND ALL LIFE ON TRANSILVANE DREADS HIS COMING!!
QUIET! OUR FRIEND IS NOT IMPRESSED BY OUR PLIGHT!! HE'S CALMLY ASSESSING HIS POSITION ON THE RACK!!
LOWER IT A NOTCH, DRAGORIN!
I'LL DO BETTER THAN THAT! I'LL LOWER IT WHERE HE CAN EASILY SEE THE SPIKES!
AH! HE STRUGGLES IN PANIC! HE'S READY TO TALK, DRAGORIN!
YOU TRAILED US HERE! THEN YOU MUST KNOW ABOUT US!--THEN YOU MUST KNOW ABOUT DABNEY DONOVAN!! WHERE IS HE?? WHERE IS HE??
I WISH I KNEW!! I'D GO AFTER HIM AND BRING HIM TO YOU, MYSELF!

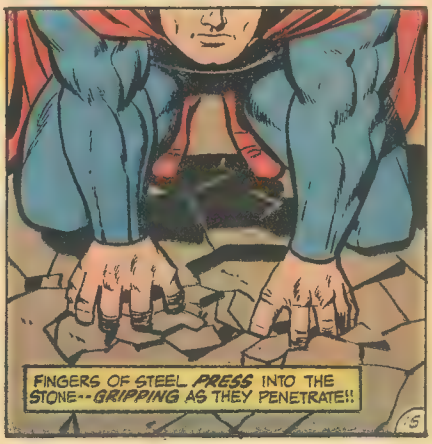

HOWEVER, I CAN'T BE OF ANY HELP TO YOU, RELAXING IN THIS MEDIEVAL PLAYPEN!
INCREDIBLE!
HE'S SMASHED THE RACK WITH ASTOUNDING EASE!!
HE'S A SORCERER, DRAGORIN!!--A CREATURE OF GREAT POWER! WHAT WILL WE DO?
HE STILL VALUES HIS YOUNG FRIEND, EH, WIZARD?
COOL IT!! LEAVE JIMMY OUT OF THIS!
BY ALL APPEARANCES, HE IS OUT OF IT!! IT'S JUST AS WELL THAT HE SLEEP THROUGH THIS--RATHER THAN UNDERGO ADDITIONAL STRESS!!
HE WILL DIE, WITH US ALL, SORCERER!!--WHEN THE DEMON DOG FLIES!!
FOR, SOMEHOW, I FEEL OUR EFFORTS TO FIND DABNEY DONOVAN WILL FAIL!--AND THE "PICTURE-PROPHECY" IN OUR SKIES--CANNOT BE ALTERED!!
YES, IT CAN!--IF--YOU STAY CALM AND THINK LOGICALLY!! DABNEY DONOVAN, WHO CREATED YOUR PLANET, IS ONLY A MAN, HIMSELF!--WITH MOODS AND--HABITS!
14

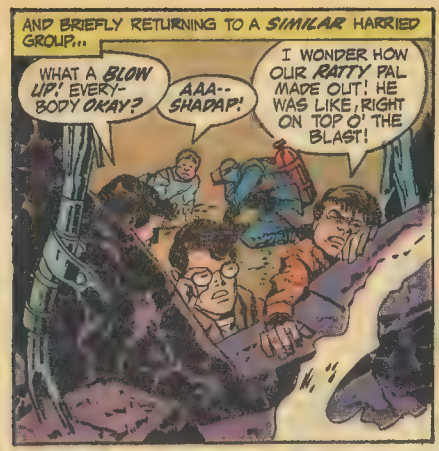
SUPERMAN IS SUDDENLY INTERRUPTED!
BONG-BONG-BONG-BONG
IT'S COME, AS PREDICTED! THE SOUND OF THE TOLLING BELL
THE HOUR OF MASS DEATH IS AT HAND! THE DEMON DOG SHALL FLY!! AND EVEN AS ITS GREAT WINGS THROW THEIR DARK SHADOW ACROSS TRANSIL-VANE--
NO! NO! NO!


--IT'S GREAT JAWS WILL OPEN-- AND FROM THEM SHALL POUR THE LIQUID FIRE WHICH SHALL WASH OUR WORLD CLEAN OF ALL LIVING THINGS!!
I'LL HAVE TO WORK ALONE-- AND FAST!

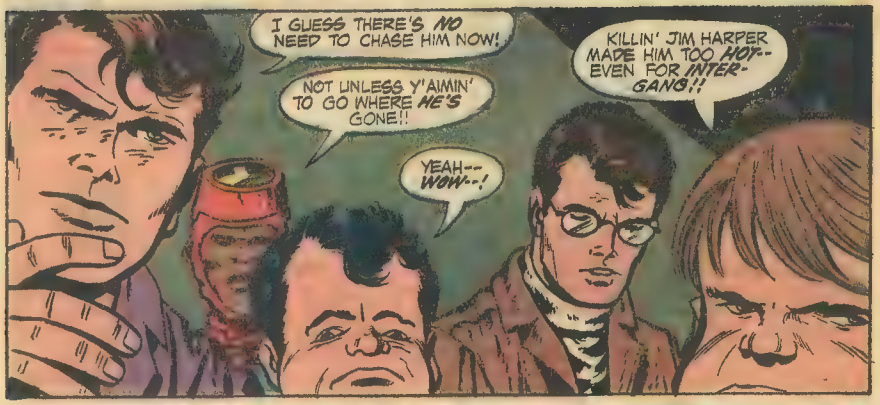

DONOVAN'S LABORATORY IS SOMEWHERE CLOSE BY! MY SUPER-SENSES-- CAN DETECT HIDDEN CIRCUITS-- CAN HEAR THE NOISE OF UNSEEN MECHANISMS--
BONG
BONG BONG BONG

HERE! A WELDED SEAM-- DISGUISED AS A NATURAL CRACK IN THE STONE FLAGGING!!


FINGERS OF STEEL PRESS INTO THE STONE-- GRIPPING AS THEY PENETRATE!!


AND BRIEFLY RETURNING TO A SIMILAR HARRIED GROUP...
WHAT A BLOW UP! EVERY-BODY OKAY?
AAA--SHADAP!
I WONDER HOW OUR RATTY PAL MADE OUT! HE WAS LIKE, RIGHT ON TOP O' THE BLAST!

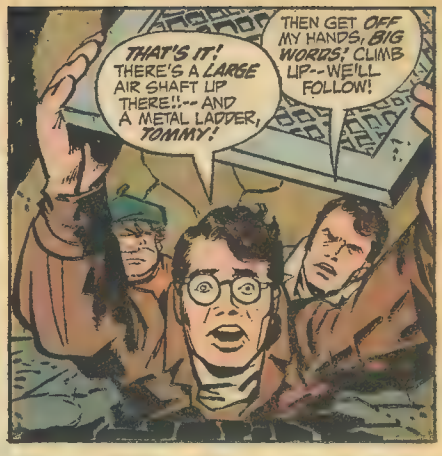
AND THAT'S EXACTLY HOW HE MADE OUT!--LIKE A MAN SITTING ON A KEG OF HIGH EXPLOSIVE!

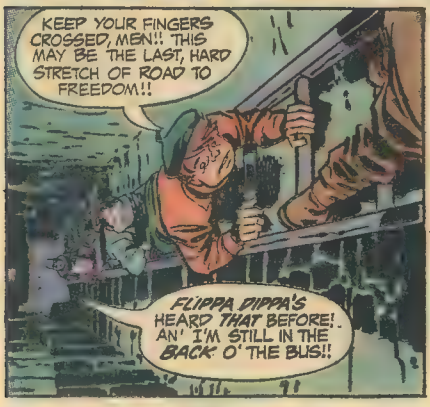

I GUESS THERE'S NO NEED TO CHASE HIM NOW!
NOT UNLESS Y'AIMIN' TO GO WHERE HE'S GONE!!
YEAH--WOW--!
KILLIN' JIM HARPER MADE HIM TOO HOT--EVEN FOR INTER-GANG!!

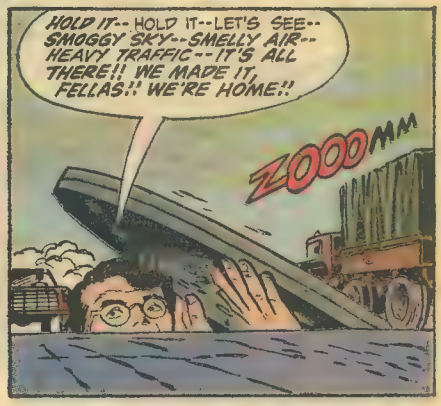
HEY! MY GOSH! I ALMOST FORGOT!
I HAD 'IM RIGHT HERE--IN MY POCKET--!! HE MAY BE HURT!! CASUALTY!!
WHO!?? WHO--STUPID??

HIM, STUPID! DAT FEISTY LITTLE D.N.A. SCRAPPER TROOPER!
HE'S OKAY! LOOK AT HIM WAVE!
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING

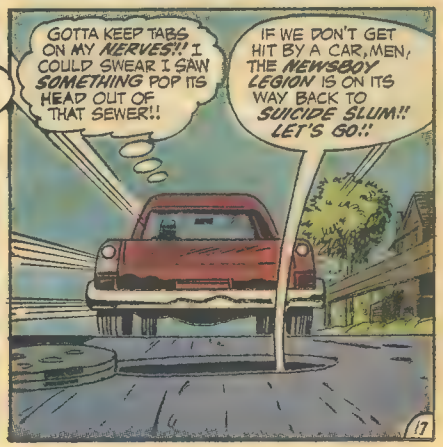
WHAT'S MORE, HE'S POINTING TOWARD THE CEILING!! HE KNOWS THE WAY UP--AND OUT OF THIS PLACE!!
BUT WHERE--?
WAIT! THAT AIR VENT--

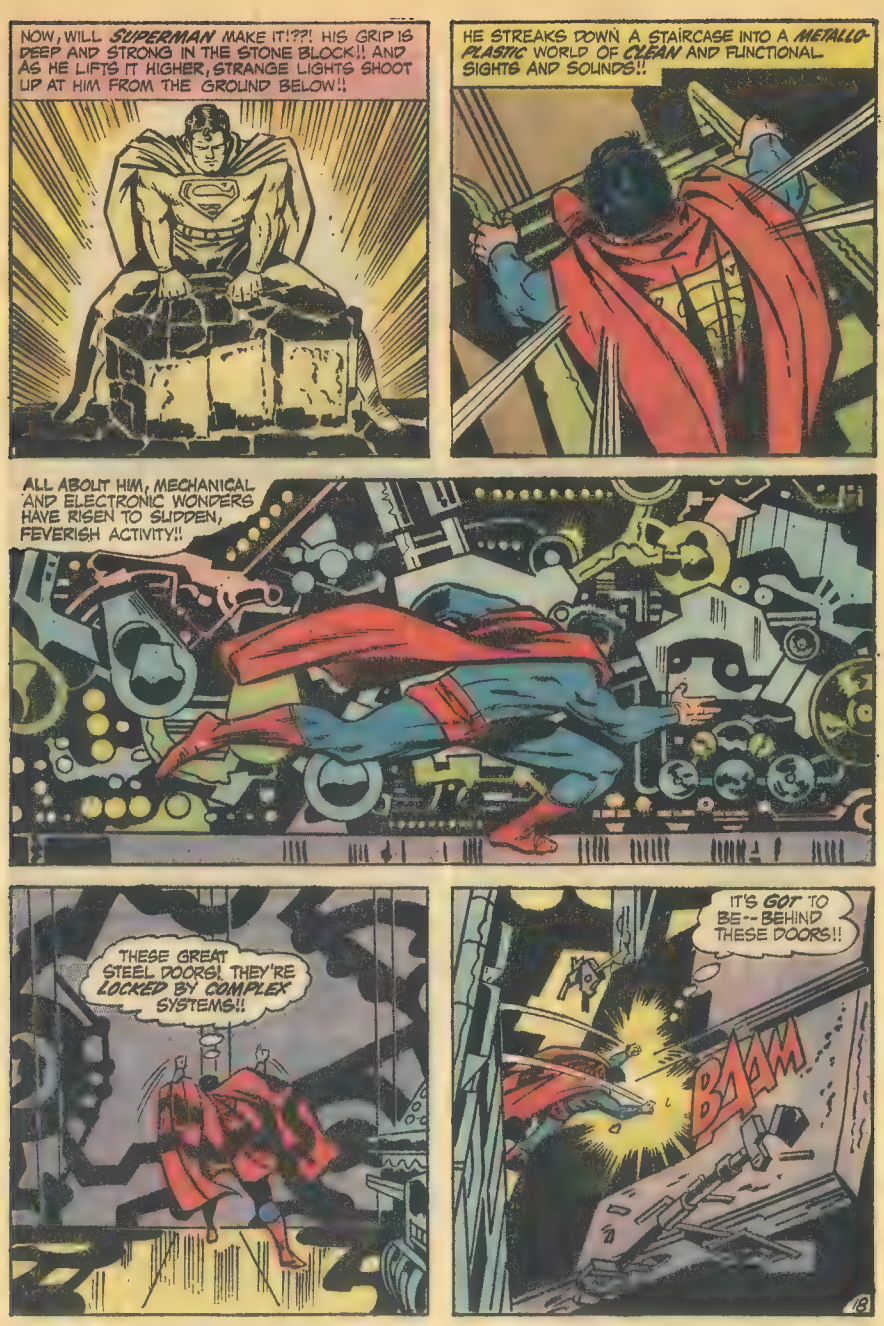

THAT'S IT! THERE'S A LARGE AIR SHAFT UP THERE!!-- AND A METAL LADDER, TOMMY!
THEN GET OFF MY HANDS, BIG WORDS! CLIMB UP--WE'LL FOLLOW!

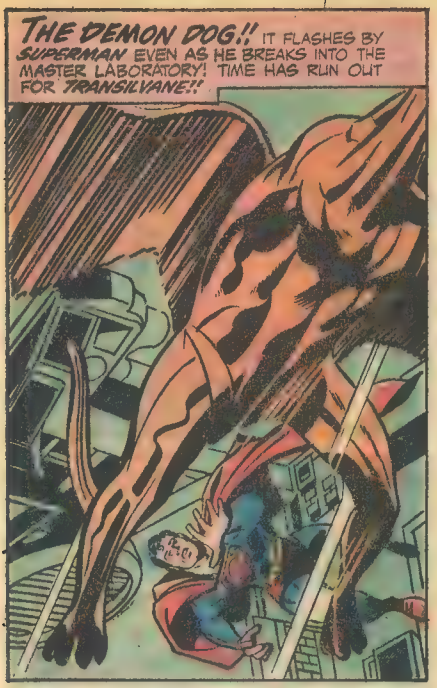

KEEP YOUR FINGERS CROSSED, MEN!! THIS MAY BE THE LAST, HARD STRETCH OF ROAD TO FREEDOM!!
FLIPPA DIPPA'S HEARD THAT BEFORE! AN' I'M STILL IN THE BACK O' THE BUS!!

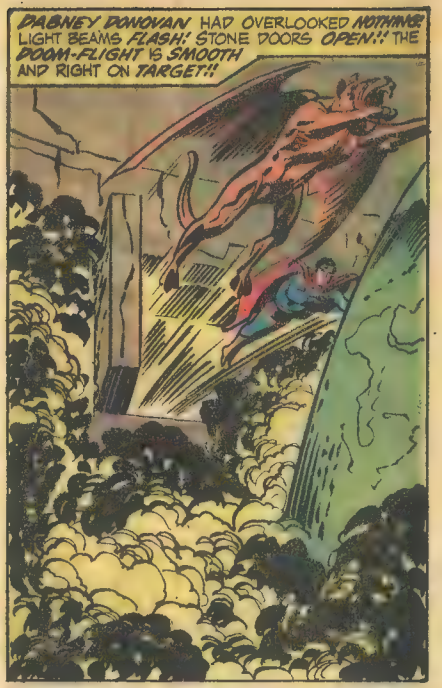

HOLD IT-- HOLD IT--LET'S SEE-- SMOGGY SKY--SMELLY AIR-- HEAVY TRAFFIC--IT'S ALL THERE!! WE MADE IT, FELLAS!! WE'RE HOME!!
ZOOOMM

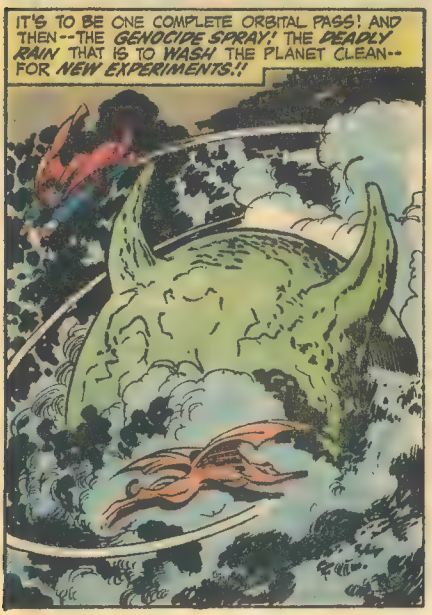
HONK
YIPES!


GOTTA KEEP TABS ON MY NERVES!! I COULD SWEAR I SAW SOMETHING POP ITS HEAD OUT OF THAT SEWER!!
IF WE DON'T GET HIT BY A CAR, MEN, THE NEWSBOY LEGION IS ON ITS WAY BACK TO SUICIDE SLUM!! LET'S GO!!

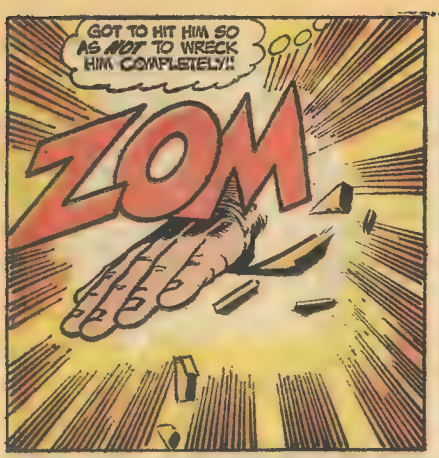

NOW, WILL SUPERMAN MAKE IT!??! HIS GRIP IS DEEP AND STRONG IN THE STONE BLOCK!! AND AS HE LIFTS IT HIGHER, STRANGE LIGHTS SHOOT UP AT HIM FROM THE GROUND BELOW!!
HE STREAKS DOWN A STAIRCASE INTO A METALLO-PLASTIC WORLD OF CLEAN AND FUNCTIONAL SIGHTS AND SOUNDS!!
ALL ABOUT HIM, MECHANICAL AND ELECTRONIC WONDERS HAVE RISEN TO SUDDEN, FEVERISH ACTIVITY!!
THESE GREAT STEEL DOORS! THEY'RE LOCKED BY COMPLEX SYSTEMS!!
IT'S GOT TO BE--BEHIND THESE DOORS!!
BLAM
18

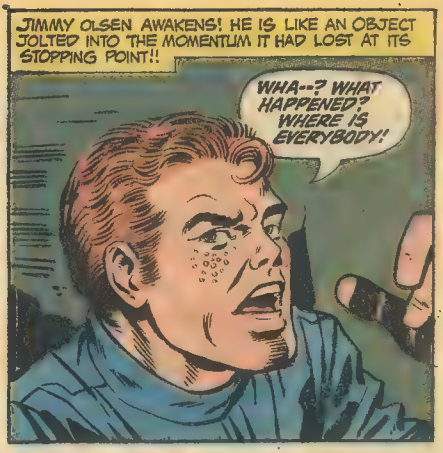

THE DEMON DOG!! IT FLASHES BY SUPERMAN EVEN AS HE BREAKS INTO THE MASTER LABORATORY! TIME HAS RUN OUT FOR TRANSILVANE!!

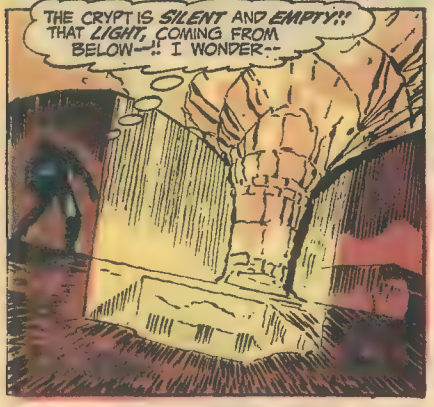

DABNEY DONOVAN HAD OVERLOOKED NOTHING! LIGHT BEAMS FLASH! STONE DOORS OPEN!! THE DOOM-FLIGHT IS SMOOTH AND RIGHT ON TARGET!!

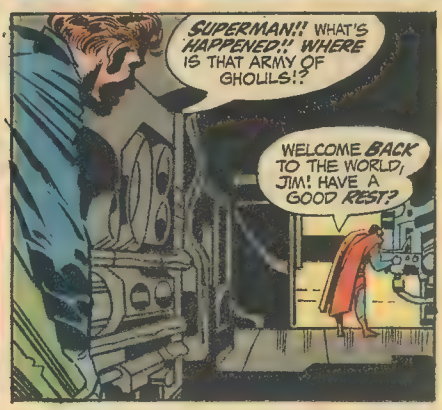

IT'S TO BE ONE COMPLETE ORBITAL PASS! AND THEN--THE GENOCIDE SPRAY! THE DEADLY RAIN THAT IS TO WASH THE PLANET CLEAN--FOR NEW EXPERIMENTS!!

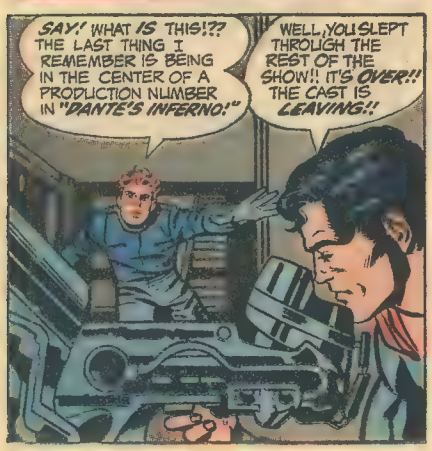
NOW, THE "KILL-DIVE"! AND A SHORT BURST OF TEST SPRAY!
GOT TO STOP HIM--NOW!
19

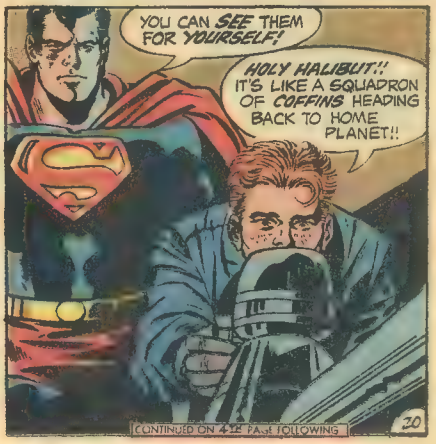



JIMMY OLSEN AWAKENS! HE IS LIKE AN OBJECT JOLTED INTO THE MOMENTUM IT HAD LOST AT ITS STOPPING POINT!!
WHA--? WHAT HAPPENED? WHERE IS EVERYBODY!






SAY! WHAT IS THIS!?? THE LAST THING I REMEMBER IS BEING IN THE CENTER OF A PRODUCTION NUMBER IN "DANTE'S INFERNO!"
WELL, YOU SLEPT THROUGH THE REST OF THE SHOW!! IT'S OVER!! THE CAST IS LEAVING!!



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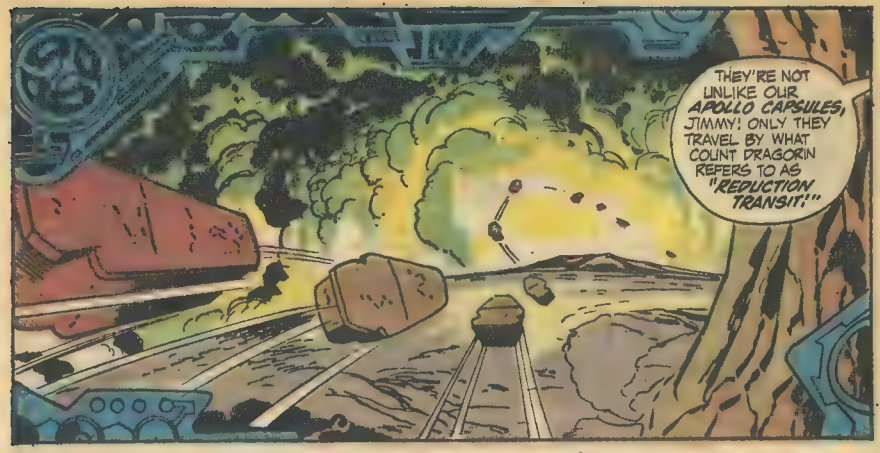
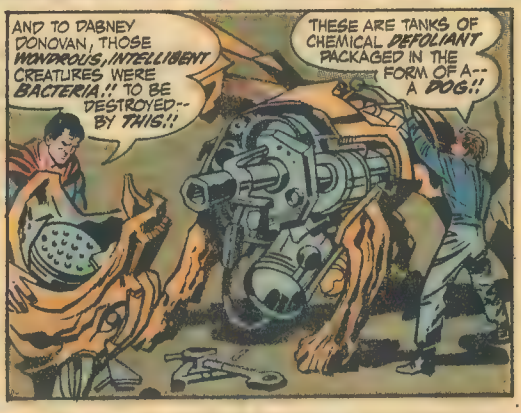
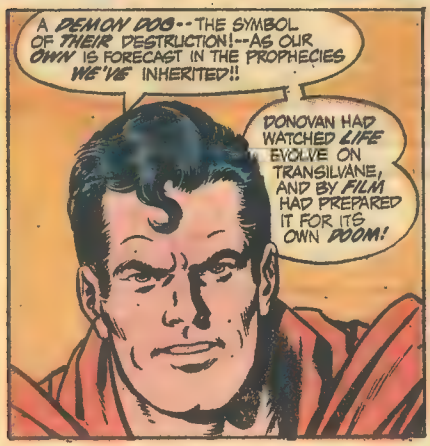
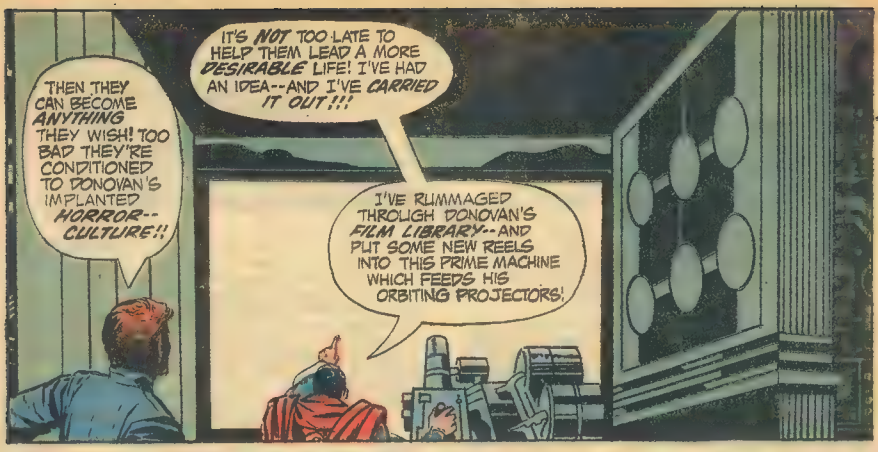

THEY'RE NOT UNLIKE OUR APOLLO CAPSULES, JIMMY! ONLY THEY TRAVEL BY WHAT COUNT DRAGORIN REFERS TO AS "REDUCTION TRANSIT!"

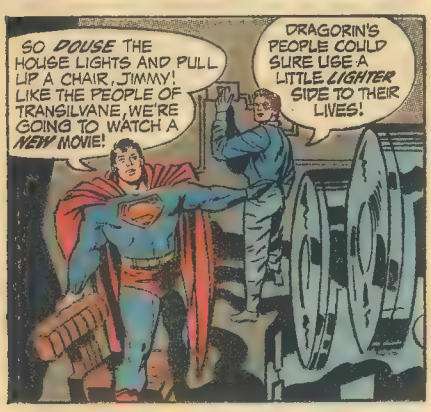
THEY'RE GROWING SMALLER! THEIR ATOMIC STRUCTURE IS SHIFTING--COMPACTING! SOON, THEY'LL VANISH TOWARD TRANSILVANE!
TOO SMALL TO BE SEEN BY THE NAKED EYE!

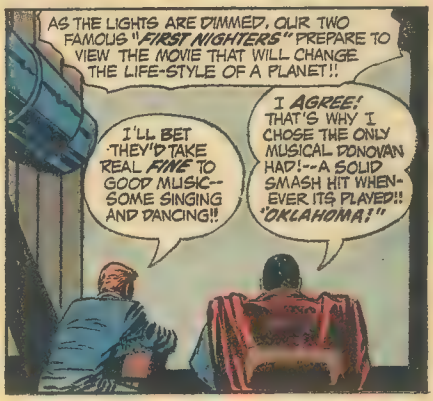

AND TO DABNEY DONOVAN, THOSE WONDROUS, INTELLIGENT CREATURES WERE BACTERIA!! TO BE DESTROYED--BY THIS!!
THESE ARE TANKS OF CHICAL DEFOLIANT PACKAGED IN THE FORM OF A--A DOG!!


A DEMON DOG--THE SYMBOL OF THEIR DESTRUCTION!--AS OUR OWN IS FORECAST IN THE PROPHECIES WE'VE INHERITED!!
DONOVAN HAD WATCHED LIFE EVOLVE ON TRANSILVANE, AND BY FILM HAD PREPARED IT FOR ITS OWN DOOM!

WHAT A TWISTED EGO THAT DONOVAN MUST HAVE!! BUT HOW DID HIS MOTION PICTURES TURN THOSE PEOPLE INTO PERFECT REPLICAS OF OUR CLASSIC MONSTERS?
THOSE PEOPLE ARE NATURAL "COPIERS!" THEY HAVE A FLUID ATOMIC BASE! AFTER GENERATIONS OF WATCHING SKY MOVIES--THEY BECAME WHAT THEY SAW!!


IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO HELP THEM LEAD A MORE DESIRABLE LIFE! I'VE HAD AN IDEA--AND I'VE CARRIED IT OUT!!!
THEN THEY CAN BECOME ANYTHING THEY WISH! TOO BAD THEY'RE CONDITIONED TO DONOVAN'S IMPLANTED HORROR--CULTURE!!
I'VE RUMMAGED THROUGH DONOVAN'S FILM LIBRARY--AND PUT SOME NEW REELS INTO THIS PRIME MACHINE WHICH FEEDS HIS ORBITING PROJECTORS!


SO DOUSE THE HOUSE LIGHTS AND PULL UP A CHAIR, JIMMY! LIKE THE PEOPLE OF TRANSILVANE, WE'RE GOING TO WATCH A NEW MOVIE!
DRAGORIN'S PEOPLE COULD SURE USE A LITTLE LIGHTER SIDE TO THEIR LIVES!


AS THE LIGHTS ARE DIMMED, OUR TWO FAMOUS "FIRST NIGHTERS" PREPARE TO VIEW THE MOVIE THAT WILL CHANGE THE LIFE-STYLE OF A PLANET!!
I'LL BET THEY'D TAKE REAL FINE TO GOOD MUSIC--SOME SINGING AND DANCING!!
I AGREE! THAT'S WHY I CHOSE THE ONLY MUSICAL DONOVAN HAD!--A SOLID SMASH HIT WHENEVER ITS PLAYED!! "OKLAHOMA!"

PERHAPS, SOME DAY SOON, WE'LL ALL TAKE A "SMALL" TRIP TO TRANSILVANE--AND SEE THE CHANGES WROUGHT BY SUPERMAN'S SUBSTITUTE PSYCHOLOGY!!!

BUT RIGHT NOW WE CAN'T!

THERE'S A STORY BREAKING!! RUMORS FLYING!! ODD TALES AND HORRIFYING SIGHTINGS, CONCERNING

"A BIG THING IN A DEEP SCOTTISH LAKE!!!"

ASSIGNED TO INVESTIGATION: JIMMY OLSEN - SUPERMAN - THE NEWSBOY LEGION!! IN A NEVER-DEAD ISSUE--THAT BECOMES THE LIVING END!

STRANGE STORIES OF THE D.N.A. PROJECT
The ALIEN THING!!!
THE FIRST GENETIC STRUCTURING TO RUN WILD IN THE LABORATORY ALMOST PROVED TO BE THE LAST!!!
WHEN IT QUICKLY EVOLVED TO ADOLESCENCE, THE D.N.A. PROJECT FOUND TROUBLE ON ITS HANDS!! THE BATTLE WITH IT LASTED FOR A DAY!!
HERE GOES A GAS GRENADE!
IT WAS THE FIRST "D.N. ALIEN" THE PROJECT HAD PRODUCED!! IT GREW FAST! --AND HOSTILE! NOTHING SEEMED TO STOP IT!!
PAF!
TRANQUILIZING GAS SEEMED TO SLOW DOWN ITS MOVEMENT--BUT NOT THE MATURING PROCESS!!
HERE IT COMES! LOOK OUT!
SOMEHOW, ITS METABOLISM WAS WILDLY ACCELERATING!!--EMITTING GREAT BURSTS OF BRIGHT, SEARING, DAMAGING ENERGY!!
ZAP!

THE DISRUPTIVE FORCE AFFECTED THOUSANDS OF CIRCUITS -- AND CUT OFF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE PROJECT AND THE OUTSIDE WORLD!!

THE SWITCHBOARDS HAVE BURNED OUT!!

GREAT SHOCKS FOLLOWED!! AND CRACKS APPEARED IN PLACES WHERE SUBTERRANEAN WATERS BROKE THROUGH TO CAUSE CRITICAL EMERGENCIES!

AND ON THE ZOOMWAY ITSELF, LARGE FISSURES OPENED AND YAWNED! THE LOW CASUALTY RATE WAS AN INCREDIBLE PART OF THE STRANGE EVENTS!!!

THEN IN A LAST, TERRIFYING BURST OF BODY ENERGY, THE ALIEN CAUSED AN AURORA EFFECT THAT COULD BE SEEN FOR MILES!!!

IT PROVED TO BE THE *LAST* OF HIM!! HE HAD LITERALLY *BURNED* HIMSELF OUT!! -- AND WITH SUCH *DEVASTATING* FORCE THAT HIS POWDERY REMAINS SHOCKED WITNESSES INTO SILENCE!!!

THE *D.N. ALIEN*, HOWEVER, *DIDN'T* DIE IN VAIN!!! HIS *BRIEF* LIFE LEFT *VITAL* CLUES ON HOW TO KEEP SUCCEEDING D.N. ALIENS *ALIVE*!!!

JIMMY OLSEN'S *Pen-Pals*

Send all letters to: c/o National Periodical Publications, Inc. 909 Third Avenue, New York, New York 10022

Dear Editor:

I was born with my foot in my mouth. I have a knack for speaking too soon; that is to say, to complain about a matter which is either resolved or on the verge of resolution. To wit: *Jimmy Olsen* #139.

I've misjudged Jack Kirby, as this issue and the descriptions of the forthcoming issues seem to have shown. *Jimmy* is finally returning to the head of the mag and is being handled quite well. It's evident that Mr. Kirby wanted to give us a change of pace story to offset the intricate, heavy-handed ones he's previously done. Brother, did he succeed!

"The Guardian Fights Again" was original and amusing. When I eyeballed the credits (inked, inked and inked—good grief!), I knew the story would be light and comical. *Scrapper* was more farcical than usual. But *Goody Rickels!?!* I went into near-convulsive hysteria. Don Rickles is my favorite master of insult, and I can't wait till he appears next issue. Everything about *Goody* was appealing, from his reference to John Wayne to that ridiculous costume. (Have Don and Mr. Kirby met? This almost seems like vengeance for a time Jack might possibly have been roasted by Don.)

Ugly Mannheim was also humorous because he seemed to have been taken straight out of a gangland movie. He makes *Darkseid* look attractive, which is extremely difficult. I'd definitely like to see more of him.

Well, Jack Kirby, you've struck again. Please forgive me for that undeserved browbeating of you.

Gerard Triano, Elmont, N.Y.

(Consider yourself forgiven, Gerry. Actually, Jack did the two-issue story with the full cooperation of Don Rickles himself. Maybe if Don sees your letter he'll be impressed enough to tell you you're a dummy, or something. —E.N.B.)

Dear Editor:

I am not amused. To say that *Jimmy Olsen* #139 was a letdown is an understatement. To say I can't believe Kirby would foist such an atrocious tale on his literate reading public is putting it mildly. To say that Kirby has betrayed my confidence in the fertility of his imagination is sad but true.

The story in *JO* #139 was self-parodying, which is one of the worst possible sins for a serious fantasy comic. In the seventh Kirby-produced issue, Jack seemed to be saying, "I don't really take my comic magazines seriously. They're just a joke to me." If the creator doesn't take his work seriously, how can we be expected to? After the fantastic paving of the groundwork for Olsen stories in the last six issues, with the *Project*, the *D.N. Aliens*, etc., we have now progressed one more step towards the ultimate—*Don Rickles?!?* I hope you can see what I mean.

I usually hand what I feel to be the most significant comic books of the month over to my father (who is an educator) for his perusal. He is quite impressed by the sophistication in today's comics and has already used some as educational tools. But if I had let him see *JO* #139, he would have asked me why I even bother to read and collect such juvenile stuff.

Please do not do such a thing again and maybe somehow all can be forgiven. Now that I have thoroughly chastised you, let me make a few suggestions which would, in my opinion, be helpful to the *Jimmy Olsen* magazine. (1) Emphasize *The Guardian* rather than *Superman*, since *Superman* receives enough exposure elsewhere. (2) The trend today seems to be away from the overuse of exclamation points. Exclamation points are one of Kirby's major hang-ups and tend to make everything look melodramatic. (3) Avoid overuse of photographic montages. (4) Play down the *Newsboy Legion* whenever possible. (5) Avoid too many blurbs on covers and emphasize good artwork.

Please, Jack, don't let us down.

Mark Gruenwald, Oshkosh, Wis.

(Well, you're not the only one who disliked the Rickles story. Our mail indicates a couple of other guys agreed with you. Kind of reminds us, though, of some critics in the 18th century who thought it was terrible that Shakespeare included comedy relief in Hamlet! *We say, if* Hamlet *could have his humorous gravediggers,* Jimmy *can have* Goody Rickels *in a couple of issues.* —E.N.B.)

Dear Editor:

I want to disagree with your answer to Steven Utley's letter in JO #139. You stated the possibility of a *Newsboy Legion* existing on each of DC's twin Earths, because they had appeared in the '40's with Earth-2's *Sandman*. I think that such an explanation would be disappointing to older fans and confusing to newer ones. I prefer to think that the fathers of today's *NL* are the same ones who appeared in *Star-Spangled Comics* 25 years ago. So here's my solution to the conflict:

The *Superman* titles have been contradicting themselves terribly. In *Superman*, we see the *Man of Steel* weakened and losing his powers completely at times. In *Action Comics*, he doesn't lose his powers, but as in *Superman*, he is seen working for *Morgan Edge's* television station. But in *JO*, *Superman* is not only as strong as ever, but is still reporting for the *Daily Planet*. Conclusion—the adventures taking place in *JO* are occurring on Earth-2, and these are the sons of the *Golden Age Newsboy Legion* (and not their Earth-1 counterparts).

There's one problem. There have been a few crossover references to *JO* in *Action*, and some *D.N. Aliens* taken from cells of the *JLA* members appeared in a recent *Lois Lane*. But for the sake of extending my proposed concepts, I could overlook a couple of minor inconsistencies like these. What do you think?

Harold May, Clarksdale, Miss.

(Sorry, it won't work! Remember, Morgan Edge *made his bow in* Jimmy Olsen. *So* Clark *occasionally works for the paper as well as the TV station. That happens in other mags, too.* Lois Lane *is tied in with the Kirby mythos.* The Black Racer *recently appeared in it, and you'll see* Desaad *and* Darkseid *next issue. Besides, as revealed in the last* JLA-JSA *teamup, the Earth-2* Clark Kent *is now editor of the* Daily Star. *As for the super-powers, the problems with the sand-creature were confined to* Superman *to make it easier on the other editors. And why couldn't there have been identical* Legions *on both Earths? By the way, the story featuring the* Newsboy Legion, The Sandman *and* The Boy Commandos *is reprinted in the latest* Mister Miracle, *on sale soon!* —E.N.B.)

SUPERMAN'S PAL
JIMMY OLSEN

scanned by *Wizard*